GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

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Photograph by Amos Burg

INDIANS DON'T MIND BEING MEMBERS OF A "MINORITY" IN ALASKA

The playful Indian lads at Metlakatla on Annette Island represent one of Alaska's two important native "minorities"—the Indians and the Eskimos. In the last census, the 15,576 Eskimos outnumbered their red brothers by 4,000, while the Territory's white inhabitants numbered 39,170. Both Indians and Eskimos receive special privileges and protection from the U. S. Government, such as the exclusive right to ownership of reindeer herds. The Indians of Metlakatla, a cooperative community founded by a missionary, have exclusive fishing privileges for the salmon-rich waters around their island (Bulletin No. 2).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Java the Tropical Keystone of Allied Far East Defense

GREEN and steaming Java, central island of the Netherlands Indies, has become the keystone of the barrier the Allied forces are erecting against Japanese expansion in the southwest Pacific. The island is to be the headquarters of General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander in Chief of the Allied forces in the Far East.

Java stands in the center of a tropical area rich in the war materials needed by both the Allies and the Axis—rubber, tin, oil, food, and quinine. It stands, moreover, as an obstacle in the path of Japan's push toward the Indian Ocean, across which lie the lifeline shipping routes that bring American war aid to China, Russia, and Singapore, and link Britain with India and Australia. By plane, Java is barely four hours away from Singapore.

One of the Most Crowded Spots in the World

From the point of view of Americans, the island is a key spot for defending not only the source of needed supplies but also extensive American-owned property. United States firms have investments valued at $70,000,000 in the Netherlands Indies.

Lying between Sumatra and Bali in the 3,600-mile-long island chain of the Indies, Java is the business center for the sixty million inhabitants of the Netherlands' most valuable colony, and is now also the haven for functions and funds moved there from the Nazi-occupied mother country. The colony's capital city, Batavia, with more than a half-million people living in its picturesque European and native quarters, stands on Java's northwest coast.

This tropical green island south of the Equator, washed by the blue Indian Ocean on the south and the warm Java Sea on the north, is one of the most thickly populated bits of land on the globe. On its mountain slopes and coastal plains live more than half the population of the Indies, although it is only the fourth largest of the island chain. It is more crowded than the Netherlands mother country, although it is four and a half times as large. Its area of 51,000 square miles (with the adjacent island of Madura) supports nearly 42 million people, or about 820 to the square mile.

Principally Mohammedan in religion and Malayan in race, Java's population includes a cross section of the entire Orient, with large samplings of natives speaking all the 250 tongues of the Indies.

Leading Commercial Crops Are of Foreign Origin

This rich island, of which Europe had probably never heard until Marco Polo mentioned it among his true tall tales, attracted the Dutch to establish a fort at Batavia in 1610. The four centuries since then have been a record of almost continuous development. The most precious crops that support Java's world-important commerce were introduced there in the European process of making the island over.

Now Java is the world's medicine chest for quinine, the only natural remedy with which malaria can be combatted. Ecuador Indians founded the Java quinine industry unwittingly, when they furnished a medicinal powdered bark to cure the sick Spanish Countess of Chinchon in Peru. Culture of the cinchona tree was introduced into western Java, which now produces about 90 per cent of the world's quinine.

Java is a synonym for coffee, but the fragrant brown bean was a stranger there until Dutch planters performed the introduction. The island exports more tea

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Photograph by De Cou from Galloway

JAVA, WHICH GAVE BANTAM CHICKENS TO THE WORLD, KEEPS AN ABUNDANCE OF PET FOWLS

From the old kingdom of Bantam, which occupied the western part of Java before the coming of the Dutch, probably came the breed and the name of Bantam fowl. A more spectacular native fowl is the splendid green peacock. Every home has a cage or two of pet birds, hoisted like a flag on a pole in the yard during the day and lowered at sundown to be kept safely indoors at night. When the family travels, the bird pets in their cages travel too. Turtledoves and ring-tailed pigeons are favorites. Birds and chickens are offered for sale in every market, and enterprising peddlers line up cages along the highways to attract the attention of travelers (Bulletin No. 1).

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Alaska Celebrates 75 Years with Uncle Sam

WAR in the Pacific has brought alarms and blackouts to that part of the continent where the United States flag flies farthest west in North America —Alaska.

Booming with the construction of bases to defend the northern Pacific, Alaska is now entering its 75th year of being "U. S. American." From the time of its discovery until March 30, 1867, it was known as Russian America. Then the United States bought it from the Tsars. Ninety-eight per cent of it still is owned by the U. S. Government.

Unknown under Russians Except along Coast

An empty Arctic area one-fifth as large as the United States, Alaska is a land of high forested mountains, of dog sleds and airplane taxis, of glaciers and ice-water fjords, of orchids under the midnight sun, of Eskimos and reindeer, and of the deadly, hard-hitting air bases of modern warfare. To strengthen Alaska's defenses, the United States is spending about four times as much as the original purchase price of the entire territory.

The flying distance from Alaska to Yokohama, Japan, is about the same as from Alaska to New York—less than 18 hours.

Under Russian rule, for all practical purposes Alaska was regarded as a mere thin strip along the coast, limited chiefly to the south. Inland, the country remained a mystery.

In 1867, William H. Seward, Secretary of State, arranged the purchase of the territory for $7,200,000. Alaska's 586,400 square miles thus cost less than two cents an acre. "Seward's folly" already has returned, in gold, salmon, furs, lumber, and other products, about 200 times the purchase price.

1940 Tops Gold Rush

The famous Klondike area, on the Canadian side of the boundary, was the scene of the frenzied gold rush of 1897-8. It reached a peak of production of $22,000,000 worth of gold in 1900. Without sensational headlines, Alaska in 1940 reported an all-time high in gold production of over $26,000,000.

In 1938 Alaska mined some $3,000,000 worth of copper, over a million dollars in platinum metals (platinum, iridium, osmium, ruthenium, rhodium, and palladium), with lesser values in silver, lead, tin, and coal. Tin ore has been mined in small quantities for the past twenty years, but the total output has amounted to less than $1,500,000 worth. It was sent to Singapore for smelting.

Alaska has abundant water power, with 50 hydroelectric plants in operation. Forests covering three-fifths of the land are another valuable resource.

The real "pay dirt" of Alaska comes from its waters, in the shape of silvery fish. Salmon is the most valuable single product. Each year the value of canned salmon exported has been from $35,000,000 to $50,000,000. Indians and Eskimos have a specially protected share in the industry (illustration, cover).

Railways to aid mining have helped open up the interior of Alaska. The Seward and Anchorage line to the heart of Alaska at Fairbanks began operation in 1923. There are now nearly 800 miles of railways in the Territory.

The longest automobile highway stretches 410 miles from Fairbanks to Valdez. All Alaska has not more than 2,500 miles of wagon roads, some 1,500 miles of sled roads, and 6,500 miles of permanent trails. In central and northern Alaska, much

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than either China or Japan, but tea culture there is barely a century old. The oil palm arrived in Java from Africa, and tobacco from the Americas. Rubber also is a newcomer to Javanese agriculture, and likewise an immigrant from America.

An old-timer on Java's farms, however, is sugar cane. The island rivals Cuba in sugar growing, and in fact claims the highest production per space unit of all sugar countries. Extensive exports make Soerabaja, on the northeast coast, one of the big sugar ports of the world.

The making over of Java has added new industries to the traditional native occupations of batik-making, metal-working, and farming. An American tire plant operates at Buitenzorg south of Batavia, an automobile plant at Batavia's port Tangjoenpriok, a quinine factory at Bandoeng in the central mountains. Defense works at the naval base of Soerabaja even turn out torpedo boats.

Automobiles whizz along the island's 13,000 miles of roads, although bicycles are popular, as in the Netherlands. The modern railway system offers travel in air-conditioned coaches from one end of the island to the other.

But ox-carts still trundle along the automobile highways, and buggies are in favor for leisurely excursions past rubber plantation and kapok forest. Monkeys in the tree tops, carabaos in the rice fields, women in sarongs, and volcanoes in the background are changeless features of the island landscape.

Note: Java is shown on the Map of the Indian Ocean, which may be obtained from the headquarters of the National Geographic Society in Washington, D. C.

For further information about Java see "Through Java in Pursuit of Color," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1929, and "Java Assignment," January, 1942.

See also the following GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS: "Batavia, the Amsterdam of the Orient," January 6, 1941, and "Netherlands Indies Question Haunts Homeland and Japan," April 1, 1940.

Bulletin No. 1, January 26, 1942.

Photograph by W. Robert Moore

BOILING VOLCANOES COOKED UP SOME FERTILE SOIL FOR JAVA'S FARMS

In the historical background of Java's productive farm land stand volcanoes, which covered the island with rich earth. In the actual background also of many a farm volcanoes may be visible, for more than a hundred of them are known in the mountain backbone that crosses the island east and west. Because of the mountains, Java's streams are too short and turbulent for navigation, but are excellent for irrigating the island's two and a half million acres of rice lands (above). The water buffalo, or carabao, is almost as essential to rice culture as irrigation. Though Java does not produce quite enough rice for its crowded inhabitants, the native diet includes turnips, tapioca, sweet potatoes, and Indian corn.

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Changsha: Central China's Bastion Against Japan

THE baseball rule of "Three strikes, and out" seems to apply to the battle for Changsha in central China. Twice Japanese drives against the city were repulsed. The third time they struck, early in January, the Chinese fought them off with what was described as a knockout blow.

The city of more than 600,000 inhabitants is a key railroad and highway junction, and one of the outstanding industrial centers remaining in the hands of the Chinese. It dominates the Siang River, a Yangtze tributary, whose valley is not only a fertile granary but also the source of coal, antimony, and lead. Antimony is one of the industrially important metals for which the United States has long depended on imports from China.

Blocks Japanese Traffic on Cross-China Rail Route

The capital of mountainous Hunan Province, Changsha is about as far inland as Nashville, Tennessee. It is roughly 400 miles east of Chungking, capital of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's refugee Chinese Government.

Although Japanese hold the northern and southern sections of the great north-south railroad system stretching from Manchukuo to Canton and Hong Kong, Changsha blocks any through traffic on the Hankow-Canton section. If the entire system should fall into Japanese hands, the invaders would be able to transport troops and supplies by the relatively safe railroad route from Manchukuo through China to Indo-China, Thailand, and the Malay States, with only a few gaps to be covered by motor transport.

A military highway has been built from Changsha into the southwest. In addition to the railroad facilities, the city has also the Siang River, which for nine months of the year carries traffic north to Hankow on the Yangtze. In spite of its mountainous terrain, Hunan Province is well supplied with canals that bring to the capital the products of provincial farms and mines.

Lake Vanishes in Dry Season

One of the richest Hunan areas around Changsha is the vanishing Tung Ting Lake, between the provincial capital and the winding Yangtze River to the north. For much of the year Tung Ting Lake is thirty to forty feet deep, but in the dry season it empties its waters into the diminished Yangtze and becomes an area of rich mud flats, through which the Siang River cuts a 20-foot bed. The lake's seasonal inundations contribute to the district's noted production of rice, which is one of the thirstiest of crops (illustration, next page). Normally the cereal grows so abundantly that it forms a valuable export crop. There, too, for centuries, was grown the most famous tea of the province, a green leaf that provided the tea for China's former imperial family.

On the terraced hillsides and fertile bottom lands of the Siang River valley, wheat also is grown.

The mines of the Siang valley are found farther up the river in the southern part of Hunan Province. The coal fields there are the most accessible deposits in south China. Antimony, used in making type metal and other alloys, is one of China's most important peacetime exports. One of its chief uses is to harden lead grids in batteries that start automobiles, trucks, tanks, and airplanes.

Changsha's supply of raw materials and its good highway, canal, and railroad

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travel is still by dog teams in winter. Because of difficulties of surface transportation, aviation has developed rapidly into Alaska's own taxi service. There are 155 air fields in Alaska, and passenger miles flown reach 8,000,000 each year.

Defense work is proving a greater boom to Alaska than did the gold rush. New Navy and Army bases, highways, and airfields have brought in thousands of people. The population of Alaska is expected to pass the 80,000 mark. The 1940 census listed 72,524 persons, with only 20 towns. Juneau, the capital (with 5,748 people in 1940), Anchorage, and other towns are expecting to double the number of their inhabitants.

Most foodstuffs for the growing population are imported from the States—nearly $5,000,000 worth annually. There are slightly more than 623 farms in Alaska, aggregating 1,775,752 acres. The Territory is estimated to have some 65,000 square miles suitable for agriculture during the short summers, and 35,000 additional for grazing, best suited for reindeer (illustration, below). But less than one-half of one per cent of the total area is in crops. The best agricultural lands are on the Cook Inlet shore of the Kenai Peninsula; in the Tanana Valley near Fairbanks; and in the Matanuska Valley.

Note: Alaska may be found on the new Map of the World, which was issued as a supplement to the December, 1941, number of the *National Geographic Magazine*.

For further information on Alaska see "'Nakwasina' Goes North," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1933; "Exploring Frozen Fragments of American History," May, 1939; and "Our Air Frontier in Alaska," October, 1940. See also the following GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS: "World's Largest Non-Polar Icecap Found in Alaska," October 3, 1938; "Alaska's Wealth Now Recognized among Sea Treasures," May 9, 1938; and "Big Diomede and Little Diomede: Russia 2 Miles from U. S. A.," February 17, 1941.

Bulletin No. 2, January 26, 1942.

Photograph by Henry B. Collins, Jr.

UNCLE SAM WAS THE SANTA CLAUS WHO BROUGHT REINDEER TO ALASKA

As the whales, walrus, seals, fish, and game began to grow scarce fifty years ago, Eskimos and Indians in parts of Alaska faced starvation. The U. S. Government's Bureau of Education arranged to have sixteen reindeer brought from Siberia in 1891 as an experiment, to supplement the diminishing food supply of the natives. A little over a thousand were finally imported, and since then the original stock has increased to herds numbering about 300,000. While the animals rove half-wild over the tundra, each Eskimo village lays claim to a herd. Once a year the herd is rounded up and the reindeer are either slaughtered for meat and hides or marked with a nick in the ear and turned out on the range again. Dashing Eskimo "reindeer boys" in overalls lasso them in the manner approved in cowboy rodeos of the U. S. West.

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Highlights of 1941 in War-Blazing World

THE year 1941 has taken its place in history as the period which saw the complete encirclement of the globe by a second World War.

The December 7 attack on Pearl Harbor brought new belligerency to every continent and all the traveled seas. Within a week of Japan's surprise assault on Pearl Harbor, some 20 foes were lined up against the Japanese Empire. They included the United States, Great Britain and her dependencies; the Dominions of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa; China; the Free French, and the exiled governments of Poland, Greece, the Netherlands (with the Netherlands Indies), and others. In addition, the six Central American republics—Panama, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua —joined the war front. The Caribbean island republics of Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic followed suit. Other Latin American nations broke off diplomatic relations with the Axis, or declared solidarity with the United States.

Japan Early Took Position against Malaya and Philippines

On the same day that the Japanese struck in the East, Great Britain declared war against Romania, Hungary, and Finland.

The year 1941 opened with the long-drawn-out war between Japan and China still in progress. The Nipponese arbitrated a border war between French Indo-China and Thailand, awarding some 25,000 square miles to Thailand. In the nominally French colony of Indo-China, Japan extended her line of bases toward British Singapore and the Philippines. In the north, an agreement was reached with Soviet Russia concerning the disputed Manchukuo-Mongolia frontier.

In Europe, the beginning of 1941 found Germany occupying Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the major portion of France. Unoccupied France, Hungary, Romania, and Spain were under German control.

Greenland, Iceland, and Surinam under U. S. Wing

When Yugoslavia signed up with the Axis in March, a revolutionary coup created a pro-Ally government headed by youthful King Peter, who replaced the regent, Paul. Germany's spring campaign conquered Yugoslavia and Greece.

"Side wars" in the Arab kingdom of Iraq and in Syria resulted in the occupation of those countries by British and Free French troops. Later, Iran was occupied by the joint forces of Russia and Great Britain.

The German attack on Soviet Russia on June 22 was followed by the bitterly contested advance of Nazi armored legions along the world's longest battle front. Finland entered the war against Russia from the north, while Hungary and Romania joined German forces on the southern front. The huge and vital Soviet Ukraine was overrun. German forces took Rostov, seemingly on the way to the oil-rich region of the Soviet Caucasus. They succeeded also in seriously threatening Moscow and Leningrad. By the end of the year, however, a new chapter had been written in World War No. 2, as the Russians, aided by the rigors of winter, reoccupied Rostov and made gains relieving the pressure on their major cities.

The struggle for Italian East Africa and Libia continued in 1941. Italian Somaliland and Eritrea were gradually taken by British and Free French troops. Haile Selassie, "King of Kings and Lion of Judah," was returned to his throne in Addis Ababa by British and native victories in Ethiopia. The tug-of-war for

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connections have made the city a center of industry. Furniture, pewter teapots, brassware, linen, and embroideries are produced. From Changsha used to come a large share of the firecrackers with which American children celebrated Independence Day before the idea of a "Safe and Sane Fourth" was popularized.

The city's industrial output is comparatively new, for Changsha was not opened to foreigners until 1904, when it was listed as one of the few "treaty ports" in which non-Chinese could do business. Even then, it was difficult for foreign merchants to find shop room. In 1910, the growing power of foreign firms precipitated serious rioting in protest. Many European and American business houses set up their shops outside the city wall.

In recent years, the city has been of special interest to many Americans as the home of a college for Chinese maintained by Yale University, offering the Chinese a collegiate training comparable to that obtainable in the United States. A Chinese university on a hill across the Siang River has been in existence for seven centuries.

Although its history runs back beyond the birth of Christ, Changsha has taken on a modern appearance. Its 12-mile-long wall has been torn down and a boulevard developed over part of the site. Streets have been straightened and widened by six or eight feet. As buildings were crowded away from the street into less space, they were constructed four and five stories high. And with its modernization, Changsha has gained the reputation of being one of the cleanest cities of China.

Note: Changsha may be located on the National Geographic Society's Map of Asia. A price list of maps may be obtained from the headquarters of the Society in Washington, D. C.

For further information on China, see the following articles in back issues of the *National Geographic Magazine:* "The Geography of China," June, 1927; "How Half the World Works," April, 1932; "4,000 Hours Over China," May, 1938; and "Burma Road, Back Door to China," November, 1940.

Bulletin No. 3, January 26, 1942.

Photograph by Charles H. Kragh

HUNAN WOMEN BEND LOW TO FILL CHINA'S RICE BOWLS

Changsha and Hunan's fertile valleys are far enough south to grow rice. Much of the province's flooded rice land is irrigated by the seasonal spread of Tung Ting Lake, which expands in summer to cover an area about 55 by 75 miles. Rice is cultivated by the laborious, back-breaking method of hand-planting. After being forced to sprout by warming in a big iron pot and soaking between layers of straw in the wooden sprouting tub, the tiny rice sprouts are planted close together in the corner of a flooded field for two weeks. Then the shoots are pulled up carefully by the handful, tied with straw into bundles of four to six plants (above), and the bundles plunged into one muddy hole each, in rows six inches apart. In some provinces, the planter rests against a one-legged stool, but elsewhere she just bends over.

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War Announced to Japan's Sun Goddess at Ise Shrines

WHEN the Japanese Premier, Hideki Tojo, visited the sacred Sun Goddess shrine in Ise Province to report Japan's entrance into war and to pray for victory, he was paying homage before the "holy of holies" of Japan's Shinto religion. The Ise Daijingu (or the Two Great Divine Palaces in Ise), about 250 miles southwest of Tokyo, are to religious Japanese what Mecca is to Moslems, or Jerusalem to Christians.

The Japanese government contributes to the upkeep of Shinto shrines, a practice which would be contrary to principle in the United States because of the American tradition, based on the Constitution, of separation of church and state.

Emperors of the Living and of the Dead Were Offspring of Sun Goddess

Shinto is the exclusively Japanese religion which combines loyalty to the Emperor, ancestor worship, and veneration of the "eight million gods of Nature," all under the supreme direction of the Sun Goddess. There are some 196,000 shrines and temples to Shinto deities in Japan, and an estimated 16,000 priests. The majority of the shrines are without regular priestly guardians, except on the one or two annual occasions when special ceremonies are celebrated. Each structure is dedicated to a god, goddess, or other presiding spirit of mountain, valley, sea, wind, weather, or some other aspect of nature.

Shinto comes from two Chinese words meaning "The Way of the Gods." It is based on the belief that the Sun Goddess was the mother of the founder of Japan's Imperial Family; another son became Lord of the Dead, governing spirits of ghostly Japanese as the Emperor rules the living. In each of her various shrines the Sun Goddess is represented by a sacred mirror which no one is allowed to see. For a long period Buddhism from China was more popular in Japan than the religious patriotism of Shinto, but the latter strongly revived in the 1870's, after the eclipsed Emperors recovered their usurped power from the Shoguns.

The two sacred shrines of Ise Province stand in the city of Yamada and the village of Uji, on the west coast of Ise Bay. The Naiku, or Inner Shrine, at Uji near the foot of volcanic Mount Asama, is consecrated to the Sun Goddess, Amaterasu-O-mikami, the Great Ancestress of the Emperor. All major developments involving Japan, whether good fortune or bad, must be reported to the Sun Goddess by high officials on ceremonial visits.

New Buildings Every 20 Years

The Geku, the other of the sacred pair of shrines, is dedicated to the Goddess of Farms, Crops, Food, Silkworms, and Clothing, the deity of earthly things. Tracing its origin back to 478 A. D., the Geku stands on the edge of the city of Yamada, in a grove of trees near the railway station. A broad highway originally built for the Emperor's family joins the two shrines, and pilgrims cover the four miles between them on foot, in automobiles, or street cars. The approach to each is marked by high-arched bridges (illustration, next page) and *torii*, the gateway-like monuments that characterize most Shinto shrines.

The Sun Goddess's sacred precincts of the Naiku, of course, are holier than the Geku. Standing in a 164-acre park among groves of lofty, aged evergreen cryptomeria trees, the Naiku Shrine consists of four enclosures, one within another, the most sacred temple in the center. Only priests and notables may enter

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Italian Libia went in Britain's favor, as British Empire forces invaded Cirenaica:

The "Lend-Lease" bill was passed. Greenland was taken under United States protection. American troops landed in Iceland, cooperating with British forces there. The United States moved soldiers into Surinam (Dutch Guiana), to safeguard that South American country's rich bauxite mines.

Behind the war fronts of 1941, German conquests resulted in a number of political changes. A Reich commissioner was appointed for "Ostland," to be composed of Estonia (illustration, below), Lithuania, Latvia, and White Russia. Eastern Galicia was reported incorporated within the Government General of Poland, and parts of the invaded Soviet Ukraine were turned over to Romania. Luxembourg was scheduled for inclusion within a new territorial unit to be added to Germany as Moselland, comprising the "West District" of Lorraine and Alsace.

Yugoslavia was partitioned among Italy, Germany, Hungary, and Bulgaria, the Italians claiming the valuable Dalmatian coast. Finland reincorporated the territory won from Russia in the new war, roughly establishing the old boundaries.

The German Volga Republic in the U. S. S. R. was broken up and its inhabitants moved to Siberia. The National (Free) French Committee was set up officially, and joined by Tahiti, along with other islands of Oceania.

In the Western Hemisphere, the outstanding government change occurred in the Republic of Panama, where a bloodless revolution shifted presidents.

In inter-American relations, 1941 saw progress toward settlement of the periodic border conflict between Peru and Ecuador; the signing of a treaty settling Panama's old boundary dispute with Costa Rica; a pact between Colombia and Venezuela concerning a 100-year-old territorial argument; and negotiations between Paraguay and Bolivia to improve frontier transportation. Significant agreements also were made between Mexico and Great Britain and the United States, looking toward a final settlement of oil controversies. In Haiti and the Dominican Republic, the United States gave up its supervision of the customs service.

Bulletin No. 4, January 26, 1942.

Photograph by K. Akel

ESTONIA'S GAY FOLK WAYS WERE SUBMERGED IN GRIM WARFARE

In Estonia, one of the three small Baltic countries that became independent at the end of World War I, the old folk songs, costumes, and customs have been encouraged by such occasions as singing festivals. A popular game at such times was finger wrestling (above). The players lock little fingers of right hands and tug, to see who can first upset his opponent. German invaders lumped Estonia with Lithuania, Latvia, and White Russia as "Ostland."

the innermost shrine. Ordinary folk must view from the outside the simple white wood buildings with bark roofs and brass ornaments.

In the veiled interior, the Sun Goddess is represented by a holy mirror, one of the Shinto sect's Three Sacred Treasures (Mirror, Sword, and Jewel) which constitute the Regalia of Japan. The tradition is that the mirror was given by the Sun Goddess to Prince Ninigi, her grandson, when he came to earth to reign.

Within the enclosures, photography, sketching, and smoking are forbidden. Carpenters who work on the buildings not only must bathe often, but are required to wear white clothes which are discarded at the appearance of the slightest stain. The timber is cut with ceremony from the Emperor's forest lands.

The Naiku buildings are razed, according to custom, every 20 years, and new structures are erected on adjacent plots. The last demolition and rebuilding came in 1929. The timbers of the razed shrines are cut up into thousands of wooden charms, which are wrapped in oiled paper and sold to pilgrims.

Between two and three million persons annually make the pilgrimage to the Great Shrines of Ise, whose history goes back almost 2,000 years.

In the nearby city of Yamada, many of the town's old-fashioned inns are almost hidden by signs and banners brought by pilgrims from all over the Japanese Empire. These are hung by the proprietors as advertisements.

Note: Japan may be found on the new map, The Theater of War in the Pacific Ocean, which will appear as a supplement to the February, 1942, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine.*

Bulletin No. 5, January 26, 1942.

Photograph by Koyoshi Sakamoto

TO THE SHINTO SHRINES OF JAPAN, THE "STRAIGHT AND NARROW" PATH IS ALSO STEEP

The "straight and narrow" paths of righteousness which lead devout Japanese to the various shrines of their Shinto deities have several architectural features in common. The approach to larger shrines is generally indicated by torii, the sacred gateway-like structures which are shrines themselves when used alone. The two Ise shrines, the Sumiyoshi Shrine, three miles from the city of Osaka, and others are reached also by way of "drum bridges," steep wooden arches describing a semicircle above a stream or lake. The brass knobs, or giboshu, on the posts are usual ornaments of the bridges; the arch in the Geku park has eight; that in the Naiku park, sixteen. Cleats attached to the steep arch help worshippers across. The bridge above leads to the Sumiyoshi Shrine, dedicated to the three sea gods who protect fishermen and Japanese navies.